THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (h). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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Exim Scrips

5998. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether EXIM Scrips have been released in recnt past;

(b) if so, the places where the same was released;

(c) what are the highlights of the EXIM Scrips;

(d) whether the Government propose to make available the details of this release to the public; and

(e) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been released by almost all the regional offices.

(c) 'EXIM SCRIP' is a new concept and has taken place of REP licences. It entitles the exporter to the release of foreign exchange for making imports. The 'SCRIP' will have only two copies viz. the original and office copy. The original copy will serve both the purposes of exchange control and Customs clearance. The SCRIP shall be of a specific value and would be valid for the import of items as per the policy. Special additional items, if any, permissible, shall be specifically endorsed on the SCRIP with value limits. It shall be freely transferable as per ordinary law and will have a validity of 18 months.

(d) and (e) Import and Export Policy and also the amendments made thereto are always notified by means of Public Notices. Copies of such Public Notices are circulated as per Policy.

[*Translation*] 258

Procurement of Cotton by Cotton Corporation of India

5999. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton procured by the Cotton Corporation of India from Maharashtra during 1990-91 cotton season and the value thereof; and

(b) the target fixed by the Cotton Corporation of India for procurement of cotton during the 1991-92 cotton season, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India did not procure cotton from Maharashtra during 1990-91 cotton season. In view of the operation of Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme of the State Government, the CCI does not operate in that State.

(b) No target has been fixed for procurement of cotton under price support operations as in the event of market prices of kapas, falling below the minimum support prices fixed by Government of India for 1991-92 season, the Corporation will buy cotton without any quantity restrictions. However, for commercial operations, the Corporation has drawn up a tentative programme for purchase of 8.5 lakh bales during 1991-92 season, State-wise break-up, being as under:-